**AUTUMN 2019** 

# INSIDEStraight

VIDEO POKER NEWS FOR CASINO PROFESSIONALS



# Video Poker Never Looked So Good

Now available in four new cabinets

# WHAT'S INSIDE

Form Factors. Gaming Platforms. Boxes. / Pgs 5-7

New Games You Must See / Pgs 8-9

New Twists on Proven Performers / Pg 10

New Bundles for New Cabinets / Pg 11



# **IGT Video Poker Sales Specialists**

# Nikol Abelman

Video Poker Sales Manager Nevada Region nikol.abelman@igt.com (702) 498-6933

## Shannon Bloom

Senior Sales Product Specialist Midwest & Northwest Regions shannon.bloom@igt.com (702) 808-9547

### Mike Drummond

Senior Sales Product Specialist Southeast Region michael.drummond@igt.com (314) 606-1018

### Sal Lambert

Senior Sales Product Specialist Western Region sal.lambert@igt.com (951) 837-6225

# **Editorial Team**

## Brad Fredella

Editor

Senior Product Manager, Video Poker and Keno brad.fredella@igt.com

## Mike Fields

Lead Writer EVP, VideoPoker.com mike.fields@actiongaming.com

### Mike Inks

Art Director, MLi Design mike@mli.design

### © 2019 IGT.

The trademarks and/or service marks used herein are either trademarks or registered trademarks of IGT, its affiliates or its licensors. Artwork, descriptions, game play, photographs, videos, and other product details depicted herein are subject to change.



IGT 6355 South Buffalo Drive Las Vegas, NV 89113-2133 702-669-7777 Poker Hotline: 702-896-8201 www.IGT.com



Action Gaming / VideoPoker.com 5220 Haven Street, Hangar 7 Las Vegas, NV 89119 702-737-7005 www.VideoPoker.com



# Welcome to the 2019 G2E Issue of Inside Straight.

Well, it's time. Summer is winding down, the school year is back, and G2E is right around the corner – where the industry will be presented with all that's new and shiny.

It's been a great year here at IGT where we keep improving our games and how they're delivered to your guests through several new gaming cabinets which will be introduced at G2E. However, you don't have to wait that long since you're getting a sneak peek here!

What you will have to wait for are some of the other surprises we have in store for you at booth #3659 this year. Beyond what you'll see in this issue, we'll have prize giveaways, innovative video poker bonusing concepts, and a completely revamped bar area which will bring the true feel of a sports lounge right onto the main floor of G2E.

Of course we'll be showcasing plenty of new games along with a few classics we're bringing back with some unique twists, all of which will be available for hands-on play at G2E. In the meantime, you can preview the new games and play some of our proven winners online right now by visiting the following website: VideoPoker.com/G2E

We look forward to seeing you at this year's show!

# Sincerely, The IGT Video Poker Team





Shannon





ke





# **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- The Peak Bar
  Featuring the new PeakBarTop™cabinet
- New Look of Video Poker
  New cabinets designed with players in mind
- New Games you Must See 8
  The latest innovations from our video poker team
- New Twists on Proven Performers 10

  Multi-hand mania and reinventing the wheel
- New Bundles for New Cabinets

  Introducing Game King® X and Super Star Poker™ II

# COMESEETHE

# Peak Bar

Brand New For G2E 2019



Sports, snacks, refreshments, video poker... We're bringing it all like only IGT can!





# The New Look of Video Poker



# Form Factors. Gaming Platforms. Boxes.

No matter what you call them, they are critical in delivering a comfortable gaming experience and in ensuring extended gambling sessions by players.

No players have longer sessions than video poker players, and over long periods of playing time, many elements must be considered. Video poker play requires active thought and much more interaction with the gaming device than does most other types of gambling activity, so comfort is of the utmost importance. Screen angles matter for clarity of sight and elimination of glare. Button tension and spacing matter

so players can play quickly – as many do. The size of the cards matters so they don't fatigue player's eyes. Comfort leads to loyalty, extended sessions, and most importantly – profit.

We've done a great deal of research over the past couple of years, talking with players and operators and incorporating the feedback we've received into four amazing new gaming devices that you and your players will love.

We're proud to introduce them to you here and hope you'll find your way to IGT's booth to see them in person at G2E!





# Video Poker Never Looked So Good







Originally, the CrystalSlant<sup>™</sup> cabinet was reserved for video slot titles, but as many of our new video poker games have evolved and become more graphic in nature, it was inevitable that we'd migrate our games to this exceptional cabinet. The playing cards are vibrant and perfectly positioned in front of the player on the CrystalSlant<sup>™</sup> cabinet, offering a greatly enhanced play experience which still retains that familiar "feel" video poker players appreciate. The extra screen capacity allows for much better merchandising of the product, which looks right at home on even the most modern gaming floor.

With nearly 1,000 CrystalSlant™ Poker machines in use on gaming floors throughout the United States, player acceptance has been well established. This is undeniably the slant-top poker cabinet of the future.

# CrystalCurve<sup>™</sup> Poker

Standing over eight feet high with a distinctive curved display, the new CrystalCurve<sup>™</sup> Poker cabinet makes a statement on any casino floor. This vast departure from the typical video poker cabinet was tested extensively in front of players and operators alike, and the results were overwhelmingly positive. We found it offers a surprisingly comfortable format for video poker play, while the tall single screen allows for a wide variety of enhanced features. Interactive game components can now be added to poker games, particularly during bonus rounds where we have ample real estate to make players a part of the action like never before. This is one new poker cabinet which must be seen and played to fully appreciate all it truly brings to the video poker experience.



# Cobalt<sup>™</sup>

The new upright Cobalt cabinet from IGT has been purpose-designed to offer video poker players the best possible play experience in an upright design. The wide button deck provides maximum support for wrists as play takes place on the familiar IGT poker button panel.

Dual 23-inch screens provide a view which players from focus group testing preferred over larger screens available in similar formats. The result is an upright cabinet with a minimal footprint and maximum effect, providing players with a truly comfortable alternative when space is at a premium.



# PeakBarTop™

We are so proud of this new device, which underwent years of planning and three design changes based on feedback received from operators, players and even bartenders - all of whom contributed to the final product. The result is a sleek, sexy, and incredibly functional design which is beyond compare.

Everything is right at-hand for the player. The familiar game play buttons remain unchanged to satisfy long-time video poker players, while enhancements like a front-mounted ticket printer and an embedded players card reader between the button panel and screen keep everything within easy reach. And speaking of the screen, the new 23-inch curved design provides unsurpassed clarity and improved glare reduction. Plus, it looks great!

The PeakBarTop™ cabinet from IGT is built on a solid foundation of decades of experience, offering a wealth of time-tested video poker content together with incredible new keno titles and player-favorite slot games which have never before been offered in a bar top format. It's this unique combination of style, function and proven performance that makes PeakBarTop™ the obvious choice for those seeking only the best for their bar and their players.





# New Games You Must See





# The Stack 'Em High™ Poker Game

Most players love either aces or deuces. This game is designed to appeal to both player types and will be the biggest hit of the show!

The Stack 'Em High™ Poker game has a 5-coin side bet that qualifies the player for a juicy, two-part bonus. The bonus is triggered when you are **dealt** 2 or 3 aces (or deuces) which triggers up to 9 additional hands starting with the high value aces (or deuces). The number of extra hands is dictated by the game family selected.

When the hand is played, subsequent aces (or deuces) are "sticky" – where they duplicate themselves up the remaining "stacked" hands. This advances all the hands from 2 aces to 3, or 3 aces to 4. The next cards are dealt to exactly where the player's eyes will be glued: to the hands looking for that  $4^{th}$  ace, or if they've got 4 aces, the valuable kicker cards.

Players will love how often they get 4 aces and 4 deuces, which we expect will make this their favorite game in no time.

To make it even more exciting, the extra hands are duplicated into the top box so the entire game is used to exploit and celebrate the bonus. This will have players leaning back and watching, and nearby patrons stopping to see what happens.

# The Super Times Pay® Wheel Poker® Game

This game blends two of the most popular bonusing elements from video poker into one incredibly fun game that's sure to enthrall your players. The 5-coin side bet is more than the original Super Times Pay Poker® game, but the value to the player is immediately apparent. Chances for a lucrative wheel spin and an increased hit frequency of the bonus feature give players more action and excitement than ever before – once in every 8.7 hands versus the 1 in 14 hands for the original Super Times Pay Poker® title.

Everyone knows the Super Times Pay Poker\* feature where random multipliers are awarded in game play and the paytable is multiplied on all any winning hands. In the Super Times Pay\* Wheel Poker\* game, we've inserted a wheel trigger feature into the mix with the multipliers.

Sometimes players will get the familiar 3x or 5x but often they'll get a wheel symbol which will trigger the wheel bonus.

When the wheel bonus is activated, the player spins the wheel which has many juicy credit awards available, including **four** slices worth between 1,000 and 4,000 credits!



# The Deal 'Em Up™ Poker Game

Rather than using an ante bet, the Deal 'Em Up™ Poker game employs a unique sliding paytable to add action and volatility to player-favorite video poker titles. Five different pay schedules in each game allow the potential for players to earn huge pays, keeping the action different and exciting between every hand they play.

For example, the Bonus Poker® game variation can pay as much as 1,600 credits for a 5-credit bet on Four Aces – a hand which normally only pays 400 credits on a standard 3/5/10 Poker™ game. What's even better is the payback for those sought-after Four of a Kind hands is never reduced, even at the lowest possible paytable!

This means Deal 'Em Up™ Poker game players will never feel cheated when they hit a big hand, but they'll sure feel great when one of them lines up with a paytable on the higher end of the spectrum!



# The Ultimate X Gold Poker™ Game

The Ultimate X Gold Poker™ game is the next multiplier-based game in the Ultimate X Poker® game series. In this 5-coin side bet version, multipliers are awarded to specific pay categories based on **dealt** winning hands.

The multipliers are awarded to the pay category where a dealt winning hand can be improved. If the improved hand isn't completed, the multiplier remains active. When the same winning dealt hand occurs again, the multiplier increases and will stay until the improved hand is achieved. The more missed hands, the higher the multipliers increase.

The effect is that each pay category has a progressive multiplier amount which grows until the specific winning category is hit. Players will love chasing jackpot categories with progressive multipliers. Play it yourself and see!

To try these new games now, visit

VideoPoker.com/G2E





# **New Twists on Proven Performers**



# The Wheel Poker® Progressive Poker Game

If there was one Wheel Poker® game title from IGT's past which was often overlooked, it may have been the Wheel Poker® Progressive Poker game. This title went out in relatively small numbers, but the casino floors which were lucky enough to get them realized amazing performance over time. Many of those aging machines can still be found today, in the same spot they've been for nearly a decade.

The new Wheel Poker® Progressive game uses the exact same math in a fresh new CrystalCurve™ poker cabinet, complete with interactive wheel spins and a few new game families added in. This carefully balanced blend of classic content with new functionality results in a play experience appreciated by both new players and those who fondly remember the original title. We know, because we asked them.

Come by the IGT booth at G2E to see why our focus group participants couldn't get enough of the Wheel Poker® Progressive game. If you get lost, just look for the 8-foot high video poker machines!



# The 25/50/100 Play Poker Game

When you know you have a proven winner, it's only natural to try and make it better. When you can't possibly make it any better than it already is, what's left? Bundling of course!

We've taken the 25 Play Poker game, the 50 Play Poker game, and the 100 Play Poker game and wrapped them all into one program. Then we went a step further and added the Super Times Pay\* Poker game variants of each title, creating what can only be described as a 6-game masterpiece of multi-hand magnificence!

That might be going a bit far, but this mix of hand counts and styles in one program provides a game for every player in a great format for the larger, more vibrant screens found on cabinets like the Poker XL and the new CrystalSlant™ poker cabinet. And when you introduce this many hands on a poker game, even 1 cent and 2 cent denominations can drive coin-in and create meaningful win per unit, particularly when shown in a format that demands attention.

High hand-count games will never be the same again – come see for yourself at G2E!

# New Bundles for New Cabinets



Out of all of the new and exciting games, cabinets and other products being shown at G2E this year, the ones which will undoubtedly steal the show will be the new Ascent versions of our two most popular game bundles – Game King\* and Super Star Poker\*. These two powerhouses are the driving force behind the new hardware being unveiled at G2E this year, and each one has some nice surprises in store.

The first thing you'll notice will be the new menu. A logo has been added, some buttons and meters have been moved, and a new scrolling tab design has been incorporated into the otherwise classic IGT menu. These subtle but important changes lead to a familiar look and feel with a clean, modern twist that is both intuitive and timeless. Best of all, the scrolling design removes the screen size limitations on tabs, opening the door for a nearly endless variety of new and exciting content in years to come.

But that doesn't mean you'll need to wait for new content of course, because these two bundles offer more new content than ever before. And while we couldn't put every one of the existing games in our vast video poker library into these new sets, we made sure to keep the important titles that truly drive the majority of play.

It's not easy to balance old and new, proven and unique; but nobody has been doing it longer or better than IGT. We took the time to look at performance numbers, listen to our customers, and understand players... then we put our experience to work. The results are two monster game sets which will attract new players while keeping your current players happy, like only Game King\* and Super Star Poker™ can do!







Visit
Videokeno.com/whoa
to try them now



Video Poker Specialist for additional information